GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5306
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2014
POLLUTION OF WATER
Nath Shri Chand

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that water released from Harike Barrage for Indira Gandhi Canal is polluted due to discharge of untreated sewage water and industrial waste of Ludhiana, Jalandhar, Phagwara and Nakoder in Punjab;

(b) if so, the reasons due to which steps have not been taken to treat industrial waste and sewage before it is released into Sutlej through Buddha Nallah and Kali Bein as the water is also used for drinking in eight districts of Rajasthan;

(c) whether Central Pollution Control Board has conducted an assessment in this regard, if so, the details thereof along with the action taken thereon; and

(d) the details of the recommendations regarding status of water quality of canals originating in Punjab and the percentage presence of coliform group of bacteria in the canal water including action taken on each of the recommendations?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION; PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TEXTILES (INDEPENDENT CHARGE).

(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a) Government of Punjab has informed that the water flowing into the Indira Gandhi Canal system feeding to Rajasthan through Harike barrage is being periodically monitored to access the quality of water. The analysis results indicates that the quality of water is either of 'B' or 'C' class and same can be used for drinking purposes after conventional treatment followed by disinfection.

(b) The Government of Punjab has also informed that they have made a comprehensive plan for the cleaning of rivers including Sutlej and Beas flowing in the state of Punjab. Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) are being installed in the 18 towns located on the banks of river Sutlej and 11 STPs in the towns located on the banks of river Beas. Since all the electroplating industries of Jalandhar and Ludhiana have adopted zero liquid discharge technology, no effluent from such units is being discharged into sewerage system leading to Buddha Nallah and Kala Singhian drain, which ultimately leads to river Sutlej/ Beas/ Harike Pond.

(c) & (d) Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in its report of 2010 has identified 150 polluted stretches of rivers in the country based on BOD (Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand), a critical parameter of water quality levels taking into account the water quality monitoring done by them in collaboration with the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs). The stretch on river Sutlej, downstream of Zenith Paper Mill at Bridge Harike, Amritsar, is included in the above list, as per details below:

Polluted Stretch	Monitoring Location	Critical Parameters BOD (mg/l)	Priority assigned by CPCB for taking up cleaning works
D/S of Zenith Paper Mill to Bridge Harike, Amritsar (Punjab)	# 100m D/S Budha Nala Confl., Ludhiana # D/S East Bein 6.2 # Boat Bdg. Dharmkotnakodar Road, Jalandhar # 1 Km. D/S of Zenith	48 18 22	I

Details of the works pertaining to river Sutlej presently included under NRCP are placed at Annexure − I.